

REMARKS

The foregoing amendment and remarks which follow are responsive to the non-final Office Action mailed June 15, 2004 mailed in relation to the above-identified patent application. In that Office Action, the Examiner indicated that Claims 5, 7-8 and 15-17 are allowed. Remaining pending Claims 9-10 and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by United States Patent Number 6,689,566 B1.

By this amendment, Applicant has cancelled Claims 9-10 and 24, without any prejudice or disclaimer, and seeks allowance of the remaining Claims, namely, Claims 5, 7-8 and 15-17. Applicants expressly reserve the right to pursue the cancelled subject matter in a subsequent application.

To the extent the Examiner has any questions, requires additional information, or has any suggestions to resolve any outstanding issues that may exist, she is invited to contact Applicant's counsel at the number listed below. Along these lines, Applicant and its counsel would like to thank the Examiner for her diligent efforts with respect to the prosecution of this matter.

If any additional fee is required, please charge Deposit Account Number 19-4330.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 6/30/04

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